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National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

July 15, 2003

NEWS

For Immediate Use

NEW JERSEY'S PEACH CROP UP TWENTY NINE PERCENT

The New Jersey Agricultural Statistics Service in Trenton recently surveyed New Jersey peach farmers as part of a national survey to determine the expected 2003 peach crop based on conditions as of July 1, 2003. The 2003 Garden State peach crop is estimated at 80 million pounds, up 18 million from the previous year. In New Jersey, bloom and fruit set were good to excellent. Sufficient soil moisture and recent high temperatures benefitted fruit development. The record high total production for the state was 137 million pounds set in 1960.

The July 2003 forecast of United States peach production is 2.62 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2002, and eight percent above 2001. As shown in the table below, seven of the top ten peach producing states forecast an increase in production from last year. California's production remained the same, and South Carolina and Washington both expect decreases in production. These ten states account for over 94 percent of the United States peach forecast.

Peaches, Total Production by State, 2001-2002 and Forcasted July 1, 2003

Production of Potatoes by State, 2001, 2002 and Forecasted 2003					
State	Ranking based on 2003	Total Production			% Change
		2001	2002	2003	
- Million Pounds -					
California	1	1,720.0	1,920.0	1,920.0	0
Georgia	2	140.0	100.0	125.0	25
South Carolina	3	100.0	160.0	120.0	(25)
New Jersey	4	75.0	62.0	80.0	29
Pennsylvania	5	75.0	60.0	70.0	17
Washington	6	55.0	66.0	60.0	(9)
Michigan	7	42.0	14.0	42.0	200
Colorado	8	18.0	19.0	20.0	5
Illinois	9	17.8	17.2	18.7	9
Arkansas	10	12.0	10.0	18.0	80
United States	--	2,433.3	2,575.4	2,623.1	2

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